**Assistive Technology**  
  
The amount of technology available for students of all abilities is amazing. This technology allows for students to participate fully in assignments and activities. There are many computer programs which students can use to help them be successful. I think the technology can not only help the disabled individuals but also students who are behind. The technology provides different ways to learn the information and different techniques for comprehension. Technology can also be used for the advanced students to add something extra to an assignment or a different way to view a certain idea.  
  
One main website I went to was the Kathy Schrock’s Special Education page, and clicked on the link for “Hand speak: A Sign Language Dictionary Online.” This is a sign language dictionary which included animated clips to illustrate words. This website impressed me, and I learned a lot from it. Not only could the students use it, but teachers as well, which I think is important. Teachers can use it to help better understand sign language, and students who use sign language can use it to help communicate. There was an ASL dictionary provided on the website, which would be beneficial to both teacher and students. There was also brain training game. This website provided help to not only the students but the teachers as well which I why I liked it a lot.  
  
Technology allows for all students to be successful no matter the ability range. The term “disabled individual” can be taken out due to the amount of different pieces of technology students can use. Each ability level can use technology in a different manor and be just as successful as every other student in the classroom.  
  
I personally have a friend who became disabled after being in Iraq. He is not able to use his hands anymore, but uses a computer. The technology the Army provided for him is amazing. He has a personalized computer which he speaks to. The computer listens to what he is saying, and types for him. I have never seen anything like this until he came home and got better. When he was first given the opportunity to use this computer to communicate, he was very skeptical. He was not sure how to work it, and if he would even like it. Once he realized how much it helped him out and the amount of communication he could still have, without hands, he was open to the idea of using it as a form of communication. It opened my eyes to the amount of technology out in the world I still do not know about.  
  
As I become a teacher, there are certain things from this assignment I will carry with me. The most important thing to remember is that each child, no matter the ability level, can be successful when you provide them with the correct materials. Although technology can get very expensive, allowing students to use it will be beneficial. There are ways for teachers to get money, as well as school, such as writing grants which will help provide the technology for students.